

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of monitoring changes in an information set of wagering information relating to wagers placed on the outcome of a sporting contest, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. entering into an agreement with a service provider to provide real time monitoring service of changes in an information set of wagering information relating to wagers placed on the outcome of a sporting contest;
 - b. receiving wagering information relating to wagers placed by others on the outcome of a sporting contest on a network of computers in real-time;
 - c. receiving on a network of computers, instructions from a user specifying criteria including at least a sporting contest, and a change in the wagering information within a discrete time step prior to the commencement of the sporting contest, the criteria signifying the occurrence of a change in the wagering information significant to the user;
 - d. comparing the criteria to the wagering information in real-time to determine when a change in the wagering information significant to the user occurs; and
 - e. causing a real-time alert message to be issued by an output service associated with the network of computers to a remote communications device (RCD) of the user upon the occurrence of the change in the wagering information within the discrete time step prior to the commencement of the sporting contest as real-time changes in the wagering information occur, the real-time alert message directed to the remote communications device of the user and confirming the occurrence of the change within the discrete time step.
2. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the service provider utilises a totalisator agency database to monitor the wagering information.

3. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the remote communications device (RCD) comprises a fixed or mobile telephone, a personal computing device or a facsimile or pager of the user.

4. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the RCD has a software component which can be used to send an input command to a software environment that is running on the network of computers of the service provider in response to the input command the software environment sends a local input command to a software environment component that processes the input command and which responds by issuing a local output command to a server infrastructure which in turn sends a remote output command to the RCD, and in response to a remote output commands, the RCD issues or displays an alert output.

5. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the user can define criteria defining a situation in which alert messages are to be issued.

6. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the service provider uses a network of computers or computer systems to monitor the wagering information.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the network of computers is adapted to send and receive information to and from a totalisator agency data server which contains real time information regarding the wagering information.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing at least one history server to store the wagering information in a database to prevent the need to request the same information numerous times.

9. (withdrawn) .

10. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the user communicates to the service provider at least one analysis criteria upon which alert messages are to be sent.